

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Original) A feeding apparatus comprising:

a container having a plurality of side walls, each side wall having structure that defines at least one opening which permits access to the interior of the container; and

an undulating extension surrounding the container having regions of increased extension and regions of decreased extension, wherein the undulating extension defines a plurality of separate eating stations.

2. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 1 wherein the container further comprises a first section connected to a second section.

3. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 2 wherein the first section has a rectangular cross section.

4. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 2 wherein the second section has a trapezoidal shape.

5. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 2 wherein the first section and the second section each comprise a plurality of side walls, wherein each of the plurality of side walls has structure which defines a plurality of openings.
6. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 1 wherein the container further comprises a feed divider member located within the container for directing feed towards the openings in the plurality of side walls in the container.
7. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 1 wherein the regions of increased extension comprise an outboard end and an inboard end, wherein the inboard end is adjacent the container.
8. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 7 wherein the outboard end is positioned higher than the inboard end.
9. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 8 wherein the outboard end is from about 0.5 feet to about 4 feet higher than the inboard end.
10. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 7 wherein the regions of increased extension further comprise an indentation located near the outboard end.
11. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 1 wherein regions of increased extension can further comprise a central section that runs generally parallel to the ground.

12. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 11 wherein the central section has a pair of side members that slope to form a trough-like shape.
13. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 1 wherein the regions of increased extension comprise one or more drains suitable for draining liquid from the regions of increased extension.
14. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 13 wherein the drain comprises a keyhole shape having larger upper opening and a slot extending from the upper opening.
15. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 1 wherein the feeding device is supported by a truss system.
16. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 15 wherein a plurality of support legs are attached to the truss system to support the feeding apparatus.
17. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 16 wherein each of the plurality of support legs are connected to a base portion suitable for permitting the feeding apparatus to slide over a surface.
18. (Original) Feeding apparatus of claim 17 wherein the base portion comprises a mushroom shape.

19. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 1 wherein the undulating extension is formed by connecting a plurality of U shaped petals.

20. (Currently Amended) A feeding apparatus comprising:

a first container section having a rectangular cross section, the first container section comprising side walls having a plurality of vertically oriented members;

a second container section having a trapezoidal shape, the second container section comprising side walls having a plurality of vertically oriented members, wherein the second container section is connected to the first container section, and wherein the vertically oriented members define a plurality of openings through the walls of the first container section and the walls of the second container section that permit access to the interior of the first container section and the second container section; and

an extension portion surrounding the second container section.

21. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 20 wherein the plurality of vertically oriented members comprise non-linear bars.

22. (Original) The feeding apparatus of claim 20 wherein the extension portion is an undulating extension having regions of increased extension and regions of decreased extension, wherein the extension portion defines a plurality of separate eating stations.

23. (Original) A method of feeding livestock comprising;

providing a feeding apparatus, the feeding apparatus comprising a container and an undulating extension surrounding the container;

said undulating extension forming a plurality of feeding stations;

placing suitable feed into the container of the feeding apparatus; and

allowing livestock to access the feeding apparatus.

Please add new claims 24 and 25 as follows:

24. (New) A feeding apparatus comprising:

a container having a plurality of side walls, each side wall having structure that defines at least one opening which permits access to the interior of the container; and

an undulating extension surrounding the container having regions of increased extension and regions of decreased extension, wherein the undulating extension defines a plurality of separate eating stations, and wherein the undulating extension is formed by connecting a plurality of U shaped petals.

25. (New) A feeding apparatus comprising:

a container having a plurality of side walls, each side wall having structure that defines at least one opening through each side wall which permits access to the interior of the container; and

an undulating extension completely surrounding the container having regions of increased extension and regions of decreased extension, wherein the undulating extension defines a plurality of separate eating stations.